Serial. No. of Issued Patent 09/139,989 Issued Patent. No. 6,340,137 Preliminary Amendment to Reissue Patent Application

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being filed prior to an initial Office action on the merits. The preliminary amendment adds Claims 9-19, which are directed to an inventive concept disclosed in the originally-filed application. Support for the additional claims can be found in at least col. 2, ll. 36-53 and col. 3, ll. 24-29, and FIGS. 1-3 of the patent. Hence, no new matter is added. Additionally, reissue has been applied for within two years from the grant of the original patent. Claims 1-19 are now pending in this reissue application.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the preliminary amendment is believed proper pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(b), and its entry is respectfully requested.

If for some reason Applicants have not paid a sufficient fee with this submittal, please consider this as authorization to charge Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz, Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: $\frac{1/21}{04}$

Bv

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